



BOROUGH OF FALMOUTH

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

C. W. J. HINGSTON,

M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.T.M. & H.(Eng.), D.P.H.(Lond.)

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

J. A. HACKING, M.A.P.H.I.

Municipal Offices, FALMOUTH, CORNWALL

(Telephone: Falmouth 312691)

For the year ending

31st DECEMBER, 1972



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Health Area Office No. 3

The Leats, TRURO, CORNWALL (Telephone Truro 2202)

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

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(Telephone: Falmouth 312691)

For the year ending

31st DECEMBER, 1972

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1972

The MAYOR OF FALMOUTH: Councillor C. Madden

Chairman: Alderman S. Robinson

Vice-Chairman: Councillor G.H. Symonds

Alderman S.A. Hooper, Councillors Mrs. R. Dunstan,
J.L. Jones, J.A.J. Tiddy, A. Wilkinson, Mrs. F.I. Wood

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

C. W. J. HINGSTON,

M.R.C.S.(Eng.), L.R.C.P.(Lond.), D.T.M. & H.(Eng.), D.P.H.(Lond.)

Chief Public Health Inspector

J. A. HACKING, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

W. F. CLARK, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

P.A. LANGHAM, B.Sc., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerks

Mrs. J. Boyce

Mrs. E. M. Symons

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my annual report on the Health and Sanitary Services for the Borough of Falmouth for the year 1972.

The estimated mid year population fell from 17,960 in 1971 to 17,410 for 1972. There was a corresponding fall in the live births from 223 to 204 and the number of deaths in all age groups rose from 239 to 275. There are no significant changes in the mortality rates. What changes that do occur are accounted for by the small numbers involved, this is seen in the case of the perinatal mortality rate where because of one death in a child under a month of age and two additional still-births in the year the perinatal mortality rate is more than doubled compared with last year. With regard to the causes of death there is a noticeable increase in the number of deaths due to Ischaemic Heart Disease from 61 to 81 and an increase in deaths from Cerebrovascular Disease from 42 to 52, and deaths from other heart diseases also show an increase over the previous year. The proportion of those dying from Ischaemic Heart disease under 65 years of age to those over 65 years of age remains at 1 to 3 over both year periods in question. The increase in Cancers of the more common sites show only a very slight increase in overall numbers i.e. 46 to 49 in 1972.

As regards infectious diseases the increase of measles starting in the winter quarter is to be expected and although the periodicity of this disease with its biennial frequency may be altered by immunisation the simple fact is that unless the number of immunisations per year over the whole area matches the figure of live births in the same area, the number of susceptibles to this disease will be sufficient for outbreaks to occur at irregular intervals.

As regards the environment the Borough has made available suitable access of wheel chair cases to selected toilets in the town, and it is hoped that other adequate access to other public buildings such as libraries and post offices etc., will be available in the near future.

The Department of the Environment has laid great stress on getting sufficient treatment to sewage before it is discharged out to sea in order to minimise beach pollution, and improvements have taken place to the Middle Point out-fall and consideration has been given to diverting more of the town sewage to the more distant Pennance Point out-fall where it is discharged into deeper water with less chance of beach pollution locally.

The body of the report covering the personal services is for the whole Health Area for reasons given in that part of the report.

Lastly, I wish to thank the Area Nursing Officers, Miss V.M. Graham who left the Department on retirement in the year and welcome Mrs. D.A.J. Perry who took over Miss Graham's work at the end of 1972, also the clerical staff at The Leats for assisting me in preparing this report; and the Town Clerk, Mr. Hall; and all Chief Officers of the Borough of Falmouth. I wish to thank Mr. Hacking and the Health Inspectorate staff for their co-operation at all times. I wish also to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support throughout the year.

I have the honour to be
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

C. W. J. HINGSTON

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Falmouth.

VITAL STATISTICS 1972 - FALMOUTH BOROUGH

	Local Authority Area			England & Wales (Total)
	Males	Females	Total	
Estimated mid-year home population	—	—	17,410	49,028,900
<u>Live Births</u>				
Total	108	91	199	725,405
Legitimate	100	83	183	662,907
Illegitimate	8	8	16	62,498
<u>Stillbirths</u>				
Total	2	3	5	8,794
Legitimate	2	3	5	7,846
Illegitimate	—	—	—	948
<u>Total Live and Stillbirths</u>				
Total	110	94	204	734,199
Legitimate	102	86	188	670,753
Illegitimate	8	8	16	63,446
<u>Deaths of Infants Under 1 Year of Age</u>				
Total	1	—	1	12,494
Legitimate	1	—	1	11,177
Illegitimate	—	—	—	1,317
<u>Under 4 Weeks of Age</u>				
Total	1	—	1	8,373
Legitimate	1	—	1	7,503
Illegitimate	—	—	—	870
<u>Under 1 Week of Age</u>				
Total	1	—	1	7,142
Legitimate	1	—	1	6,365
Illegitimate	—	—	—	777
Deaths - All Ages	141	134	275	591,907

VITAL STATISTICS 1972 - FALMOUTH BOROUGH

	Local Auth- ority Area	England and Wales
<u>Live Birth Rates, etc.</u>		
Live births per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	11.40	14.80
Area comparability factor	1.24	1.00
Local adjusted rate	14.10	14.80
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.96	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	8.00	9.00
<u>Stillbirth Rate</u>		
Stillbirths per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	25.00	12.00
<u>Infant Mortality Rates</u>		
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	5.00	17.00
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births	5.00	17.00
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	21.00
<u>Neonatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	5.00	12.00
<u>Early Neonatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	5.00	10.00
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u>		
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	29.00	22.00
<u>Death Rates, etc. - All Ages</u>		
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	15.80	12.10
Area comparability factor	.74	1.00
Local adjusted rate	11.70	12.10
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	.97	1.00

Causes of Stillbirths:-

1. Maceration -- (3)
2. Ante-partum haemorrhage -- (1)
3. Foetal anoxia -- (1)

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES SINCE 1950

<u>Year</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>
1950	14.8	11.1	33.3
1951	15.1	10.8	33.2
1952	14.4	9.5	26.3
1953	15.9	10.6	15.9
1954	14.9	12.1	30.6
1955	14.9	11.9	8.5
1956	17.0	10.9	15.4
1957	16.1	12.3	8.1
1958	15.9	11.9	12.3
1959	15.7	12.3	20.7
1960	15.0	12.1	43.4
1961	19.1	13.8	22.6
1962	14.6	12.5	17.1
1963	17.5	15.7	11.3
1964	18.0	11.1	14.1
1965	18.0	12.9	21.9
1966	17.4	12.9	15.1
1967	14.7	14.7	8.9
1968	13.8	15.6	28.7
1969	15.5	11.6	17.0
1970	15.5	11.6	17.0
1971	14.3	10.8	18.0
1972	14.1	11.7	5.0

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & Under 1 Year
B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	M	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—
B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	M	—	—	—
	F	3	—	—
B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—
B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	2	—	—
	F	4	—	—
B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	8	—	—
	F	1	—	—
B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	—	—	—
	F	8	—	—
B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	M	4	—	—
B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	M	5	—	—
	F	13	—	—
B20 Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	M	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—
B21 Diabetes Mellitus	M	2	—	—
	F	1	—	—
B46(1) Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	M	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—
B23 Anaemias	M	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—
B46(5) Other Diseases of Nervous System	M	2	—	—
	F	1	—	—
B26 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—
B27 Hypertensive Disease	M	1	—	—
	F	2	—	—
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	43	—	—
	F	38	—	—
B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	11	—	—
	F	7	—	—
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	M	18	—	—
	F	34	—	—
B46(6) Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	4	—	—
	F	1	—	—
TOTALS CARRIED FORWARD		M	102	—
		F	117	—

AGE IN YEARS

	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
B19(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
B19(2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(4)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
B19(6)	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1
B19(7)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B19(9)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
B19(11)	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—
B20	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	3	2
B21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
B23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(5)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
B26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
B28	—	—	—	—	—	5	11	8	19
B29	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	4
B30	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	9	7
B46(6)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
M	—	—	—	1	1	8	21	33	38
F	—	—	—	—	2	13	12	23	67

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & Under 1 Year
TOTALS BROUGHT FORWARD	M	102	-	-
	F	117	-	-
B31 Influenza	M	3	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B32 Pneumonia	M	10	-	-
	F	5	-	-
B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	8	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B33(2) Asthma	M	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B46(7) Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	4	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B34 Peptic Ulcer	M	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-
B37 Cirrhosis of Liver	M	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B46(8) Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	2	-	-
	F	1	-	-
B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	2	-	-
	F	-	-	-
B46(9) Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	2	-	-
	F	2	-	-
B44 Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	1	1	-
	F	-	-	-
BE47 Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-
BE48 All other accidents	M	1	-	-
	F	4	-	-
BE49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	M	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-
BE50 All other external causes	M	1	-	-
	F	2	-	-
TOTALS ALL CAUSES	M	141	1	-
	F	134	-	-

AGE IN YEARS

	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and over
	—	—	—	1	1	8	21	33	38
	—	—	—	—	2	13	12	23	67
B31	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
B33(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	1
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B33(2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(7)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B34	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
B37	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(8)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
B38	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
B46(9)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
B44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
BE47	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
BE48	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1
BE49	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
BE50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
M	—	—	1	1	1	11	24	44	58
F	—	—	1	1	4	13	14	28	73

Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases for the Year 1972:-

	<u>March</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Infective Jaundice	-	-	2	1	3
Measles	1	-	3	36	40
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	1
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	-	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Provision for Mothers and Young Children (Sec. 22)

Child Welfare Clinics - Falmouth

The number attending the Falmouth Clinic was 3,274. The number of sessions was 49; thus the average attendance per session was 67 as compared with 73 in 1971.

Dental (Includes Penryn)

Dental treatment was given to expectant mothers and children residing in the Boroughs of Falmouth and Penryn during 1972.

Ante-Natal

Ante-Natal Clinics were held at General Practitioners' Surgeries during 1972 and this scheme continues to work very successfully to the advantage of patients and nursing staff alike.

Family Planning

Family Planning still continues and Clinics are held weekly at the Infant Welfare Centre.

Mothercraft and Relaxation Classes

Nine courses of six lectures each were given by County Nurse/Midwives during the year.

Ante-Natal Clinics and Midwifery Services

All ante-natal clinics are held at 13 group practices throughout this Health Area, usually on a weekly basis, and are attended by midwives attached to the practices. 2,153 ante-natal visits to the homes were made by District Midwives in this area. The 13 practices in this Health Area held a total of 584 ante-natal clinics, and 2,468 domiciliary visits were made by Midwives to mothers returning home after delivery in hospital.

1,666 visits were made to the 113 domiciliary births delivered by District Midwives. This figure must be considered in relation to the total of 923 live births registered in the four districts comprising this Health Area. The proportion of domiciliary births to the total is 12%. This figure varies between 4% and 20% in the four districts. No doubt the greater difficulty in summoning emergency aid in rural areas and other factors determine that the percentage of home deliveries in the rural areas is smaller than for the towns. (See Table showing figures since 1966.)

Number of Home Deliveries as Percentage of Total Live Births

	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
Falmouth	49	48	38	32	31	26	18
Truro City	53	45	34	27	35	26	20
Truro R.D.C.	36	35	31	32	19	10	4
Penryn	65	57	45	36	15	17	18

As regards the majority of women delivered in hospital or other institutions and who return home to be looked after by domiciliary midwives before the 10th day after delivery, 19% are discharged home as planned or unplanned early discharge cases within two days, 17% on or after the 8th day and the majority, i.e. 64% are discharged home between the 3rd and 7th day.

It must be understood that the Registrar General's figures of 923 live births for this area represents births to women normally resident in this Health Area and does not necessarily represent the place of birth. From the annual returns of midwives it will be seen that if the number of births discharged from hospital and looked after by domiciliary midwives on their return home in this Health Area are combined with the number of domiciliary births undertaken by midwives at home, they amount to only 464 of the total of 923. Most of this discrepancy can be accounted for by the fact that many women who are delivered in hospital and return home at the end of a week, are visited and looked after by the Health Visitor, who in this county is more likely than not to be a triple worker, i.e. combined midwife, nurse, and Health Visitor, and it is in this capacity as Health Visitor that the case returning from the Maternity Hospital is registered in her returns as a child born in the calendar year. Nevertheless, the number of early discharge cases continues to occupy the domiciliary midwife in a large number of home visits.

With regard to GENERAL NURSING SERVICES in this area, the attachment of nurses to G.P's surgeries has resulted in 5,332 visits to surgeries by Home Nurses and the treating of 2,557 cases at surgeries. The number of new cases first visited and treated at the patient's home for nursing purposes is 35 for children under 5 years, 569 persons seen aged between 5-64 years, and 1,396 persons over 65 years of age. These figures reflect those for all attached nurses in this area, but for new cases first seen and treated at G.P's premises a greater proportion are in the 5-64 age group, i.e. 70 new cases under 5 years of age, 393 in those aged 5-64 and 226 in the over 65's.

In a few instances of nurse attachment more ill children are first seen and treated by the District Nurse in the G.P's surgery than in the home. The greater proportion of work done as seen in the number of visits to homes by the District Nurse is still with the elderly and handicapped, and in terms of numbers this amounts to 65,803 visits for general purposes to all age groups, which, for the 33 nurses in this area means an average of about 2,000 visits per nurse per year. Dealing with geriatric cases can be time consuming as many need dressings and toilet care and are unable physically to help themselves or the nurse when she comes to treat them at their home.

HEALTH VISITING

With regard to the annual returns from Health Visitors, 1,099 new cases of children born in the calendar year were seen by the 18 Health Visitors who work in this area, and 3,597 new cases under 5 years, not including those born in the calendar year. The number of cases of the working age population aged 17-64 seen by the Health Visitors was 345 compared with 976 elderly persons over 65 years of age. As regards the work load and visits paid by Health Visitors, 17,054 visits to children under 5 years of age were made compared with 2,973 visits to those over 65 years. This would indicate that not only are there more children visited compared with the elderly but that the amount of visits per child is about 4 compared with 3 per elderly person. This is to be expected, especially with regards to visits to the new born and young mothers. Immunisation work at G.P. surgeries and County Clinics, health education, screening tests for hearing in the young child, school work requiring attendance at medical examination of school children, and hygiene inspections at schools, and work at County child welfare clinics make up the rest of the Health Visitor's work.

Specialised duties involving the after-care problems of hospitalised children leaving the wards of the City Hospital, and the after-care in selected cases of the elderly leaving Barncoose Hospital, and work involving T.B. follow-up of cases and contacts is undertaken by 3 attached staff to practices. Because a practice is situated in one district, it does not mean that the patients are limited to that district alone, and for this reason the returns from the attached County nursing staff are not related to any defined area. As a result, this report as it concerns the personal nursing services has not attempted to separate the figures for each district, except where statutory returns are required, e.g. births and notifiable diseases. It is for this reason that this part of the annual report for the four sanitary districts is repeated in each district, and it is not perhaps insignificant that these services will be considered as one entity after April 1964 when the four districts become one.

Vaccination and Immunisation (Sec. 26) Figures for the whole of Health Area No.3

<u>PRIMARY DOSES</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1965-68</u>	<u>Others under Age 16</u>	<u>Total 1972</u>	<u>Total 1971</u>
Triple DTP	212	544	18	5	14	4	797	827
Polio	212	544	19	5	22	5	807	847
Measles	-	343	251	52	67	4	717	773
<u>REINFORCING DOSES</u>								
Triple DTP	9	618	171	20	19	5	842	883
Dip./Tetanus	-	3	4	2	789	78	876	834
Tetanus	-	2	3	3	42	177	227	167
Polio	8	621	177	22	835	131	1794	1763
BCG for 13 year olds							899	965
Rubella for 13 year old girls							401	550

Ambulance Service (Sec. 27)

This service is under direct County control through the Ambulance Headquarters and thus no report on the day to day administration is given.

Prevention, Care and After-Care (Sec. 28)

The Mobile X-Ray Team attends Falmouth Welfare Clinic twice monthly for referred cases from Doctors and for carrying out further tests on students and children found to have a positive reaction to the Heaf Skin Test, and for the general public.

As regards long term immigrants who enter this Health Area, all are visited by a Health Visitor soon after arrival, and after registration with a Family Doctor are persuaded to have their chest X-Rayed, as a precaution against tuberculosis. As immigrants often come from countries where the incidence to tuberculosis is much higher than here, this safe-guard of the immigrant seeking work in this country is essential if the incidence of tuberculosis in this country is to be further reduced. Fifteen immigrants from seven countries gave an address in this Health Area as their first destination on arrival in the United Kingdom in 1972.

Two Health Visitors spend much of their time in the Prevention, Care and After Care Service associated with tuberculosis, and the regular follow-up of cases to ensure the maintenance of a sputum negative state under continuous chemotherapy on a domiciliary basis is of vital importance. B.C.G. vaccination was given to 899 school children for protection against T.B. in the whole of the Health Area No.3, compared with 965 for 1971.

Yellow Fever

The Leats is a registered centre for this immunisation and during 1972, 283 cases were immunised prior to going abroad, compared with 283 in 1971.

Medical Loans

A supply of domiciliary aids for the handicapped is available through the Health Area Office and through the Social Services Department and the British Red Cross Society.

Chiropody and Meals on Wheels

A chiropody service is provided for persons with a medical need by County Chiropodists and private chiropodists working for the County Council. Treatment is given in The Clinic, Killigrew Street, chiropodist's surgeries and private homes. The cost to the patient is 25p per treatment.

6,998 meals were served in 1972. A twice weekly service to 70 recipients.

Geriatric Prevention and After-Care

No resident in Falmouth was found to be in need of care and attention under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act during the year.

Cervical Cytology

Cervical smear clinics have continued in Truro and at Falmouth. Out of the total of 747 cases seen at these clinics during 1972, 2 positive cases were detected.

Home Help Service

The Home Help Service continues but individual figures for each Council are not available as this service is now administered from County Hall. However, a total of 651 cases received assistance in the whole of Health Area No.3 and out of these cases 568 were over the age of 65 years.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Reviewing the year's work, there seems to be a remarkable increase in the number of complaints made to the department regarding food, ranging from smelling and mouldy food to foreign bodies in food. There has been a steady increase in the number of complaints made to the department over the last few years, from 19 in 1969, and 28 in 1971, to 40 during the current year. Although this appears somewhat alarming on the face of it, I consider that it arises, not necessarily because there has been a deterioration in food standards, but rather that there is a greater public awareness about action that can be taken concerning such matters due to the publicity which has been given in the past to successful court cases. The public too seem to be no longer tolerant of foreign bodies and mould in food which a few years ago would merely have been thrown away and no further action taken. It is also quite likely that for every complaint received by the Health Department there are many more complaints which are dealt with by shop keepers and manufacturers by way of complaint direct from the customer, as many people still prefer the direct approach and replacement of the goods. Provided the management take the matter seriously, and there is now every indication that many do, it would appear that this method of procedure is equally effective, as management is now aware of the consequences of a complaint to the Health Department which they wish to avoid at all costs.

It has not been necessary over the past few years to take many prosecutions under the Food Hygiene Regulations as management have co-operated, albeit reluctantly and slowly on some occasions, by carrying out any work which was required to bring the premises up to the standard required by the Regulations. However, it was necessary to prosecute in one case during the year both for offences under the Food Hygiene Regulations and Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, but partly due to the fact that both cases were taken together, and also that conflicting evidence was given by the proprietor of the premises concerned, the magistrates felt that there had been some confusion and gave the benefit of the doubt to the proprietor.

In this connection there is also still a need for legislation to ensure that the proprietors of all food premises obtain prior approval of such premises before they are allowed to be opened. The need to do this was amply illustrated when the proprietor of a small hotel and restaurant informed me that she had had to employ a builder to carry out the recommendations of the Fire Officer, at a cost of nearly £1,000, so that she could obtain a "Residential and Restaurant Licence", but she was unable to carry out the small amount of work which had been asked for in the kitchen to bring it up to the standard required by Regulations, until some income had been received. There was obviously the incentive to get the work done for the Fire Officer so that a licence could be obtained but there was no incentive, apart from a prosecution, to ensure that the work was done under Food Hygiene Regulations, even though such work was only of a very minor nature by comparison. Another weakness in the law was illustrated by the one prosecution under Food Hygiene Regulations as we were advised that a floor which was initially roughly constructed could not be dealt with under Regulation 25 as it did not fall within the terms of the Regulations as being not of such good order, repair and condition as to enable it to be effectively cleaned, although there was a possible offence under Regulation 6 if the construction of the floor was such as to make the premises insanitary, whether or not there was any risk of contamination of food. Thus it would appear that premises which are constructed initially of materials which enable them to be effectively cleaned, are not allowed to fall into disrepair, but where premises are constructed in such a way that doors, floors, walls etc. cannot be effectively cleaned, unless such premises could be held to be insanitary, the only remedy is a prosecution following every inspection until the condition of the floors etc. is remedied. When the law is interpreted in this way, it does not make the task of the public health inspector any easier. Fortunately, the number of cases which require prosecution are very few, but there might not be any at all and the task would be much easier, if all premises were "vetted" before they could be opened. Quite obviously the point mentioned above regarding hygienic construction and finish of walls etc. could be made a matter for the refusal of approval. There is also the, perhaps, more valid point that, without prior approval, a food business can be operated for a long time

in unhygienic premises before it is discovered in the course of routine inspection. That they do not have to have prior approval to open a food business comes as a surprise to newcomers to the trade in many instances, so apparently the trade, to some extent, assume that it is necessary or desirable.

As a result of a complaint being made regarding the poor storage of crab meat which resulted in it decomposing, it was decided to sample all the frozen crab arriving at the wholesale distributors and as a result it was necessary to make holding orders to ensure that the crab meat was not sold for human consumption unless first processed. Further samples were taken and a visit made to one of the crab processing factories in another district, by arrangement with that authority, and as a result of this certain recommendations were made regarding the processing and storage of crab meat which resulted in better samples being obtained subsequently.

I am indebted to Mr. R. G. King, F.I.M.T.A., Borough Treasurer; Mr. N. C. Slaughter, C.Eng., M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., Borough Surveyor; Mr. J. F. Holman, B.Sc., F.I.C.E., F.I.W.E., of South Cornwall Water Board; Mr. J. R. C. Finlayson, A.I.Hsg., Housing Manager; and to Mr. J. Cowperthwaite, Transport Inspector, for the information supplied regarding Finance, Sewerage, Water Supply, Housing and Transport respectively, also to Dr. C.W.J. Hingston for his advice and support, and to the staff for their loyal support and co-operation during the year and for their contribution to the report.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. HACKING

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS

Visits

Dwellings	120
Revisits	260
Houses in Multiple Occupation	18
Slum Clearance	93
Improvement Grants	162
Overcrowding	3
Qualification Certificates	47
Infectious Diseases	56
Disinfestation/Disinfection	180
Swimming Pools	24
Hairdressers	10
Council Houses	33
Other matters	162
TOTAL	<u>1168</u>

Complaints

The following complaints were received
and dealt with during the year:-

Obstructed drains and sewers	82
Unsatisfactory housing conditions	36
Defective drains	18
Overcrowding	3
Offensive accumulations	60
Keeping of animals	3
Noise	21
Offensive smells	14
Scabies	10
Holiday accommodation	2
Other matters	6
TOTAL	<u>255</u>

Erection of Houses

124 private dwellings were erected during the year but no council houses were built.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Informal Notices complied with	20
Number of premises affected	27
Statutory Notices complied with	8
Number of premises affected	8

Swimming Pools

Byelaws for the control of swimming pools open to the public were introduced in 1966 to ensure hygienic conditions in the one public swimming pool (excluding schools) in the Borough. 24 visits were made and 20 tests carried out for chlorine content and pH value of the water. The attendant tested the pool 3 times daily for chlorine content and the pH value of the water and records were kept of this testing.

Sea Water Samples

At the request of the Public Health Laboratory 22 samples of sea water were submitted from areas thought to have high, medium, and low pollution. No salmonellae were isolated.

Disinfestation

180 visits were made by public health inspectors to premises regarding disinfestation.

41 complaints were made to the department regarding insect pests, including cluster flies, fleas, wood lice and cockroaches and 21 premises were treated. In other cases complainants were advised on treatment.

In addition 25 wasps' nests were destroyed by the rodent operative including 13 on private land for which a charge was made.

As a precautionary measure 25 empty Council houses were treated.

The treatment of the refuse tip and adjoining housing estate for cockroaches was put out to a private contractor. The surface water sewers on the estate were treated with Lindane powder during the annual baiting of sewers.

HOUSING ACTS

Housing Act, 1969.

National and local publicity regarding the introduction of the 75% grant in this area resulted in many enquiries from the owners of houses.

162 visits and interviews were carried out by public health inspectors (including 112 initial inspections to private houses) to ensure that premises were in good repair and substantially free from damp, following enquiries or applications. An attempt was made to inspect all premises before an application was made so that estimates for repairs could be included and separate additional ones were not necessary, thus avoiding delay.

During the year 85 grants totalling £77,690 were agreed to by the Council.

Overcrowding

3 visits were made regarding the overcrowding provisions of the Housing Act 1957.

Slum Clearance

During the year 6 premises were dealt with under Sections 16 or 17 of the Housing Act 1957, including the service of 2 Closing Orders and 2 Demolition Orders. Offers of works to rehabilitate 4 previously closed houses were accepted and 2 Orders were revoked following modernisation of the property. Six dwellings were demolished and five families rehoused.

Council Houses

33 visits were made to council houses at the request of the Borough Surveyor to ascertain obscure causes of dampness or to carry out a full inspection for the purpose of improvement. In the great majority of cases of dampness, condensation was the causative factor due to very high humidity in our mild winter.

Qualification Certificates

47 initial visits and revisits were made by public health inspectors regarding applications for Qualification Certificates. Several revisits were necessary in cases where defects found initially had been only partly remedied and not satisfactorily completed.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Visits

Drainage general	431
Smoke tests (visits)	97
Number of smoke tests carried out	189
Water tests (visits)	187
Number of water tests carried out	441
Colour tests (visits)	36
No. of colour tests carried out	31
Choked drains and sewers	180
Cesspit/Gully Emptyer	50

Total number of visits - 981

Sewerage

Disposal of the whole of the sewage of the Borough is by means of sea outfalls at Middle Point, Gyllyngvase and Pennance Point. At four positions the sewage is raised to higher levels namely, North Parade, Prince of Wales' Pier, Dock & Railway Hotel, and the rear of Swanpool. Sewage ejectors are employed for this purpose.

The Falmouth Borough Council receives sewage from Penryn and from the village of Mabe into its main sewer to the south of Trescobeas Road whence it flows via the Swanvale valley trunk sewer to the works at Swanvale and thence to sea at Pennance Point.

The Council has adopted its Consulting Engineers' report on improvements to the sewerage system in the western part of the Borough and the Contract will start in September 1973. It will include the abandonment of the sea outfall at Swanpool Point and the diversion of sewage from there to the Pennance Point outfall.

A Contract has just been completed for improvement of pumping facilities and comminution at Swanvale sewage tanks and the provision of a new valley sewer to improve conditions as far as Trescobeas Road. The sewage from Budock Water and Mawnan Smith is now discharged via tidal tanks at the Falmouth Borough Council's outfall at Pennance Point.

Cesspools

99 premises in the Borough are served by 76 cesspools or septic tanks. During the year they were emptied as required and this necessitated the removal of 1,173 loads.

Since the 1st October 1967, all cesspools have been allowed 26 loads and septic tanks one load removed free per annum. Caravan sites have 2 free loads per caravan or chalet. Any additional loads are charged at the rate of £2 per hour.

The work is carried out by two men manning a 1200 gallon cesspool and gully emptying vehicle which works an average of three days a week on cesspools and the other two on street gullies. The vehicle covered 6,478 miles in 1972.

RODENT CONTROL

267 premises were treated against rats and 56 against mice. Coumarin derivatives were the main poisoning agents used.

Particulars of the work carried out by the Rodent Operative during the year are as follows:-

Complaints	.....	323
Inspections	.....	1505
Premises treated	.....	439
Initial points laid	..	1457
Initial "takes"	.....	960

92 visits were made to premises by public health inspectors regarding rodent infestation.

The biannual test baiting of sewers was carried out during the year, followed by two maintenance treatments. In all 218 manholes were baited and 37 initial "takes" were recorded.

Visits and Interviews

Interviews	33
Accidents	2
Offices	5
Shops	52
Catering Establishments	29
Revisits	113
	<u>234</u>
TOTAL	<u>234</u>

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	Total no. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	5	70	5
Retail shops	11	163	52
Wholesale shops and warehouses	0	5	1
Catering establishments open to the public	9	38	29
Fuel storage depots	0	0	0
TOTAL	25	276	87

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

<u>Class of Workplace</u>	<u>No. of Persons Employed</u>
Offices	535
Retail Shops	972
Wholesale Departments and Warehouses	31
Catering Establishments open to the public	226
Canteens	8
Fuel Storage Depots	0
	<u>1,772</u>
TOTAL	<u>1,772</u>

Total Males - 622

Total Females - 1,150

Registration

The remarks made in previous years still apply regarding the need to require all premises to register thus giving the local authority a complete list of all premises within their area, including those which do not fall within the scope of the Act, so that visits could be made from time to time to ascertain if there had been any change which brought the premises within the scope of the Act.

It is also felt that there is a need to review certain premises which are at present exempted from the requirements of the Act, although staff are employed e.g. some clubs etc.

Contraventions of the Act

Alterations and improvements were completed on 37 premises and 35 informal notices were served for the following contraventions of the section shown:-

<u>Section</u>	<u>Regarding</u>	<u>No.</u>
4	Cleanliness	2
6	Temperature	10
7	Ventilation	5
8	Lighting	10
9	Sanitary conveniences	7
10	Washing facilities	3
11	Supply of drinking water	1
15	Eating facilities	2
16	Floors, passages and stairs	6
17	Dangerous machinery	7
18	Protection of young persons from dangerous machinery	1
20	Hoists & Lifts Regulations	2
24	First Aid provisions	16
	Other matters	19

Accidents

Three accidents were reported during the year, none serious, and no action was necessary to prevent recurrence.

FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

Visits and Interviews

Food premises, including licensed premises, hotels etc.	441
Stalls, mobile shops and delivery vehicles	82
Unsound food	221
Food complaints	88
Ice cream sampling	53
Cream sampling	38
Food sampling	34
Milk distributors	1
Food poisoning	2
	<hr/>
TOTAL	960

Complaints and Inspections

40 complaints were made regarding food. In 5 cases the Council decided that court action should be taken resulting in total fines of £59 and £18 costs. 22 warning letters were sent to retailing and supplying firms. In the remaining cases no action was taken other than a visit for investigation, because the evidence was unsatisfactory or the complainant refused to attend court.

There are 494 food premises in the Borough including hotels and guest houses. Improvements were carried out to 30 premises. One prosecution was taken for contraventions of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations but as mentioned in the preface the case was lost.

No attempt is made to keep separate records of the various trades involved since many now represent several trades. All premises comply with relevant legislation and have wash hand basins, sinks or other facilities.

82 visits to food delivery vehicles were made and owners informed of any contraventions. Officers of nearby authorities were kept informed of any action against vehicles garaged in their area. In 9 cases the Health Committee authorised proceedings against owners for contraventions of the Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles Regulations, resulting in fines and costs of £25. In 4 cases the proceedings were adjourned because of the absence of witnesses abroad.

91 certificates were issued in connection with unsound food, the following being condemned:-

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts</u>	<u>lbs</u>
Meat (carcase)		2	43
Cooked meat and meat products		2	78
Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown		8	63
Canned meats		3	32
Other canned foods		14	8
Other foods		1	41
TOTAL	1	12	41

All this food was collected by the Council and buried at the controlled refuse tip.

Sampling

Ice Cream

34 samples of ice cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination with the following results.

Grade I	-	27
Grade II	-	6
Grade III	-	1

Cream

31 samples of the various edible creams were submitted to the laboratory, all were satisfactory. This shows the value of a unified effort by all the health authorities in the County with the co-operation of the Public Health Laboratory.

Crab Meat

Following the condemnation of a large amount of crab meat which had been stored badly in a deep freeze, it was decided to random sample frozen crab arriving in the town.

This resulted in the placing of Holding Orders under Section 27 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955, on several consignments due to the presence of vibrio-parahaemolyticus. These consignments were released when experiments proved that processing to crab soup rendered the pathogenic bacteria harmless.

The co-operation of the public health inspectors in areas where the crab meat was produced was sought and results improved dramatically.

- No. of samples - 101
- No. of samples affected by vibrio-parahaemolyticus - 66
- No. of samples having total plate count of over 1 million - 61
- No. of samples having E. Coli - 76
- No. of samples having more than 20 B. Coli @ 37° Centigrade - 89

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	—	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	—	—	1	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	61	18	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	5	5	-	-
TOTALS	67	23	2	-

2. Number of cases in which defects were found - 2

OUTWORK

2 visits were made to outworkers' premises.

There was one outworker in the August list required by Section 133(1)(c) and this person was engaged in the making etc. of Wearing Apparel.

No cases of default, notices served or prosecutions under Sections 133 and 134 were recorded in 1972.

SHOPS ACTS

The Council is responsible for the administration of the Shops Act, 1950, and during the year an Order was made under Section 40 suspending during the period from the 28th May to the 24th September 1972, the obligation to close on the weekly half-holiday for all classes of shops.

An Order was also made under Section 41 extending the closing hours of all shops to 10.00 p.m. during the period commencing the 29th May to the 23rd September 1972.

Under Section 51 of the Shops Act, 1950, which relates to Sunday Trading, an Order was made concerning shops engaged in the sale of any article required for the purpose of bathing or fishing, photographic requisites, toys, souvenirs and fancy goods, books, stationery, photographs, reproductions and postcards, allowing these shops to open between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 8.00 p.m. during the period commencing 29th May and ending the 23rd September 1972.

25 visits were made regarding the Shops (Early Closing Days) Act, 1965, and the Shops Act, 1950. Most of the problems were associated with times of opening, especially at periods when the Orders under Sections 40, 41 and 51 were not in force.

An application has been made for the relevant parts of Section 1 of the Shops Act to be implemented thereby suspending the early closing day.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967.

The Council's decision in 1970 that official action must be taken on every occasion that vehicles were abandoned meant that quite an amount of correspondence and time was spent dealing with the 22 vehicles found. One was removed and sold by the local authority and the remainder removed by their owners.

The Council provided a weekly household refuse collection, a free bulky household refuse collection service, a garden refuse collection service at a small charge and permitted free use of the Council's tip to residents. Publicity was given to the fines which could be imposed on litter dumpers.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply for the Borough is administered by the South Cornwall Water Board.

During the period under review the water supplied to the Borough has been satisfactory in both quantity and quality. The 40 bacteriological samples taken have all proved to be satisfactory and no form of contamination has been found within the system.

The Board does not add fluoride to its supplies but recent analyses show that the naturally occurring fluoride content in the water supplied to the Borough is 0.2 ppm.

There is one property in the Borough which has a private water supply and does not receive water from the Board's mains. This supply has regularly been examined and found satisfactory.

Regular flushing is carried out to guard against discolouration build-up but should this occur, particular investigation to the complaint is given.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES

Control of Moveable Dwellings

Number of complaints received - 7

Number of visits made - 48

There are 5 larger sites with accommodation for 186 caravans or chalets, 93 of which are residential. There is one site of 72 pitches used exclusively for tents. In addition there are 4 individual residential caravans and one individual holiday caravan.

All the sites have adequate sanitary conveniences, washing and bathing facilities and are provided with main water supply and dustbins.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Public Conveniences in the Borough are:-

<u>Site</u>	<u>Accommodation</u> <u>Females</u>	<u>Accommodation</u> <u>Males</u>
Greenbank Gardens	1 W.C.	1 W.C. 2 Urinal Stalls
*Prince of Wales Pier	7 W.Cs	4 W.Cs 9 Urinal Stalls
Webber Street	5 W.Cs	Nil Nil
The Moor	Nil	3 W.Cs 14 Urinal Stalls
Quarry Car Park	2 W.Cs	1 W.C. 3 Urinal Stalls
Custom House Quay	5 W.Cs	2 W.Cs 5 Urinal Stalls
*Grove Place	2 W.Cs	1 W.C. 5 Urinal Stalls
Cliff Road	2 W.Cs	1 W.C. 2 Urinal Stalls
*Gyllyngvase Beach	10 W.Cs	4 W.Cs 10 Urinal Stalls
Cemetery	1 W.C.	1 W.C. 3 Urinal Stalls
Swanpool Beach	3 W.Cs	2 W.Cs 1 Urinal Stall
Kimberley Park	1 W.C.	1 W.C. 2 Urinal Stalls
*Gyllyngdune Gardens	4 W.Cs	1 W.C. 3 Urinal Stalls
Recreation Ground	4 W.Cs	2 W.Cs 6 Urinal Stalls
Maenporth Beach	3 W.Cs	2 W.Cs 4 Urinal Stalls
Castle Beach	3 W.Cs	2 W.Cs 4 Urinal Stalls

*Watercloset available for disabled persons.

5 complaints were received during the year mostly about the condition of the conveniences which are not fully manned. 256 inspections were made by supervisory staff.

In the early part of the year it was decided to provide conveniences at Church Street Car Park and The Hornwork. A transportable made-up unit known as a "Portaloo" was selected but due to planning and other difficulties it was found impossible to site either of them before the end of the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION

A daily early morning kerbside bin collection operates in the town centre whilst the rest of the town, using sacks, is collected weekly. Three refuse collection vehicles are in regular use staffed by a driver and three loaders. Another vehicle is kept as a "reserve". The total mileage covered by all vehicles was 12,028. Due to mechanical failures and for the purposes of inspection and maintenance the four vehicles were not available for $44\frac{1}{2}$ working days. The application of Plating and Testing Regulations to the refuse vehicles increased the number of days that the vehicles were not available. Local garages again co-operated by maintaining the Saturday morning servicing ensuring that the vehicles were always available on weekdays.

The free monthly collection of bulky household items which commenced in April 1969, was very successful and was used by 270 persons.

The garden refuse collection service at 5p per sackful was used by many people in the Borough who purchased a total of 1,685 sacks for this purpose. The trade refuse charge remained at 1p per bin removed.

The use of plastic sacks continued throughout the town and over 500,000 were used. This resulted in considerable saving over the price of paper sacks and in fact, despite price increases, the cost to the Council is less now than it was in 1967.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The refuse in the Boroughs of Penryn and Falmouth is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Council's refuse tip at Trescobeas. At the present rate of tipping the site will last until at least 1974, by which time a new tip should be available some nine miles away and will be used by the four authorities comprising the new Carrick District. The responsibility for refuse disposal will, of course, have been transferred to the County Council by that time but it could well be that the County Council will arrange for the District Councils to be responsible for refuse disposal for the time being.

Loads Deposited at Refuse Tip

Refuse Vehicles

S & D Dual Tip (25 cu.yds.)	RRO 867 D (Reserve)	.....	291
S & D Dual Tip (37 cu.yds.)	YAF 214 J	.....	502
S & D Dual Tip (37 cu.yds.)	NRL 352 F	.....	537
S & D Dual Tip (37 cu.yds.)	RCV 315 G	.....	574
Hired Transport	.....		11

Permission was granted for persons to dump rubbish on the tip amounting to:-

212 lorry loads
53 van loads
81 car loads

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Attendance at Council and Committee Meetings	37
Local Land Charges Supplementary Enquiries	813
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts and Housing Acts Enquiries ...	40
Grant application enquiries	86
Deposited plans examined	316
Informal Notices served	156
Statutory Notices served	18

FALMOUTH BOROUGH

Statistics 1972

(1971 figures in brackets)

Area in acres	1,893	
Estimated population, 1972	17,410	(17,960)
Rateable value	£844,942	(£824,468)
Product of 1p rate	£8,255	(£8,008)
Families on waiting list for houses	305	(313)
Rainfall, 1972 (mm)	1203	(910)
Sunshine, 1972 (hours)	1575.3	(1604.8)

SUMMARY OF ALL VISITS AND INTERVIEWS
BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Public Health and Housing Acts	1168
Drainage and Sewage Disposal	981
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	234
Food	960
Rodent Control	92
Caravan and Camping Sites	48
Shops Acts	25
Factories Act	19
Civic Amenities Act	122
Public Conveniences	256
Refuse Collection	86
Refuse Disposal	191
Other miscellaneous visits and interviews	1102
including:-	
Clean Air Act	7
Pet Animals Act	2
"No access" visits	236
Deposited plans	18
Miscellaneous	270
Medical Officer of Health	30
Chairman	11
Owners	95
Builders	271
Architects	25
Solicitors	14
Depots	77
Water Samples	46
	TOTAL
	5284

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